

## In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

(1) Add new claims 15 – 17.

(2) Amend claims 1 and 11, as follows in the complete listing of all claims:

[c1] (currently amended) An insulated animal shelter comprising:

- a) a box having at least one flap opening to expose the interior cross-section of said box, with an opening formed in one side of said box,
- b) a plurality of substantially rigid foam panels disposed on each interior surface of said box, wherein the panel disposed adjacent to the opening on one side of said box has a corresponding opening that forms an entrance and exit portal for the insulated animal shelter, wherein an animal shelter inside said box is exposed directly to the foam insulating material without an intervening barrier.

[c2] (currently amended) An insulated animal shelter ~~according to claim 1~~ comprising:

- a) a box having at least one flap opening to expose the interior cross-section of said box, with an opening formed in one side of said box,
- b) a plurality of substantially rigid foam panels disposed on each interior surface of said box, wherein the panel disposed adjacent to the opening on one side of said box has a corresponding opening that forms an entrance and exit portal for the insulated animal shelter,
- c) wherein the box is fabricated from folded plastic based corrugated board.

[c3] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 1 wherein the flap is secured to the adjacent sides to seal said box.

[c4] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 3 wherein the flap is secured with tape.

[c5] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 1 further comprising a curtain covering the entrance and exit portal.

[c6] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 5 wherein the curtain is a sheet of flexible plastic having a sequence of vertical slits to form a sequence of narrow flexible drapes.

[c7] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 1 further comprising a cushioning material disposed on the upper surface of said box.

[c8] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 1 comprising two flaps which fold down to form a side of the box, wherein the opening that forms the entrance and exit portal is disposed on a different side of said box.

[c9] (original) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 8 wherein the box is fabricated from folded plastic based corrugated board.

[c10] (original) A kit for constructing an animal shelter, the kit comprising:

- a) a prefabricated panel plastic based corrugated board adapted to be formed into a box having a least one portal on a portion of a side surface,
- b) a plurality of substantially rigid foam boards having dimensions corresponding to the inside dimensions of each of the surface of the box to be formed from the prefabricated plastic panel, wherein at least one panel has a hole formed therein which corresponds with the shape of the side of the box having the at least one portal.

[c11] (currently amended) A pet shelter, the shelter comprising:

- a) a solid foam insulated shell having an upward facing surface, side surface and a bottom surface having at least one portal disposed on a side surface,
- b) a protective cover disposed over at least the side surfaces of the insulated shell,
- c) a cushioning material disposed over at least a portion of the upward facing surface wherein an animal sheltered inside said box is exposed directly to the solid foam insulating material without an intervening barrier.

[c12] – [c14] (cancelled)

[c15] (new) An insulated animal shelter comprising:

- a) a box having at least one opening to expose the interior cross-section of said box, the opening formed in one vertical side of said box,
- b) a plurality of vertically disposed substantially rigid foam panels adjacent the interior lateral surfaces of said box,
- c) a lower substantially rigid foam panel resting on the bottom interior surface of said box,
- d) an upper substantially rigid foam panel disposed adjacent the top interior surface of said box to support the exterior roof of said box, said upper substantially rigid foam panel resting on the edges of two or more of said vertically disposed substantially rigid foam panels,
- e) wherein at least one of said vertically disposed substantially rigid foam panels disposed adjacent to the opening on one side of said box has a corresponding opening that forms an entrance and exit portal for the insulated animal shelter.

[c16] (new) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 15 wherein the box is fabricated from folded plastic based corrugated board.

[c17] (new) An insulated animal shelter according to claim 16 further comprising a cushioning material disposed on the upper surface of said box, whereby said upper substantially rigid foam panel having a thickness of at least about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch so as to sufficient strength to support a small animal sitting on said cushioning material.